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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Masashi SAHASHI, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/654,988

GAU: 2652

FILED: September 5, 2003

EXAMINER:

FOR: MAGNETORESISTIVE ELEMENT, MAGNETIC HEAD AND MAGNETIC RECORDING/REPRODUCING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references cited in the attached Japanese Office Action listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.

A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s), published application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. In accordance with the waiver of 37 CFR 1.98 dated September 21, 2004, copies of the cited pending applications are not provided. Cited published and/or issued patents, if any, are listed on the attached PTO form 1449.

A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 242454US2SRD		SERIAL NO. 10/654,988	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT				APPLICANT Masashi SAHASHI, et al.			
				FILING DATE September 5, 2003		GROUP 2652	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT & TRADEMARK NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
AA							
AB							
AC							
AD							
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AM							
AN							
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION		
	AO	2003-218429	07/31/2003	JAPAN	YES		X
	AP	2002-163807	06/07/2002	JAPAN	YES		X
	AQ	2002-157711	05/31/2002	JAPAN	YES		X
	AR				YES		
	AS				YES		
	AT				YES		
	AU				YES		
	AV				YES		
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ						<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached
Examiner						Date Considered	

*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.